DEER HUNTING IN DARIEN WITH DOCUMENTED BOW HUNTERS Sources for Bow Hunters, AUGUST, 2006

Hiller Hunting & Fishing, 203-857-3474, Paul Hiller 140 Water St., Norwalk (The area's leading archery store) Rob Lucas, cell 858-5255, Norwalk 866-21414 Frank DiScala, Esq., cell 856-7477, Norwalk Tom Krois 203-531-7911 & Chip Vitone 203-662-5333, both work in Darien

Wayne Geitz, 203-831-8710, Norwalk Steve Pignataro 847-8156 (H), Norwalk; 203-402-5253 (O) Shelton David Pignataro, cell 515-9069 John DiMeglio 656-1491 Darien (two hunters) David Curtis (day) 203-329-2600

Chip (Charles) Stahl, cell 829-2622, Stamford, 324-3764 Larry Biagini 461-8912, Stamford Todd Guzda 203-667-1683 or 609-0721, Stamford Eric Johnson 662 0411, Darien Lorin Radtke 656-1445, Darien

Lawrence Rosati 961-9632, Darien Phil Cornelio 965-0087, Stamford John Lawlor and Sam Boccuzzi 203-662-5300 (O), Darien Scott Ragone, cell 1-732-310-1665, Stamford Jeff Stempien, cell 496-7821, Greenwich

Paul Tirpack, 357-7916, Stamford
Mark Hiller, 203-877-3662, Milford, often works in Darien
Vinko Jurac 914-698-7354, West Chester, often works in Darien
The Bait Shop 853-3811 Rowayton; ask for Nick
Steven Romanos 203-925-0611, Shelton & Thomas Angelo 924-5940 Milford; Stamford (O)

Matt Corrente 329-9441, Stamford & Dennis Onacilla 353-0616, Stamford David Torre, 838-1684, Norwalk David Vallerie, Sr., 203-426-6941, Newtown; cell 203-733-1456 Carl Ferrarese, Sr., 203-378-4347, Stratford (H), 1-800-878-8459-3 (O) Shelton

DARIEN ANIMAL CONTROL: 655-8686 for questions on animal matters **DARIEN PUBLIC WORKS**: Darren Oustafine, Asst. Dir. 656-7365 for road kill disposal **DEER BUTCHER**: Mark Hiller,cell 203-606-9868; Milford 203-877-3662 **HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY**: 203-629-8772, Greenwich

MAKING ARRANGEMENTS WITH A BOW HUNTER: See next side. Copies of the above list are available at the Darien Town Clerk's Office

With very serious over-abundance of deer in this area, many home owners now seek seasonal help from bow hunters. (Herds have the reproductive potential to double every two years.) We encourage land owners to invite hunters in early to scout their properties and discuss possible plans. Hunters are not allowed to charge for their service, but contributions for butchering meat going to shelters may be arranged.

The bow-hunting season here in this stressed area runs from September 15th until January 31st, but the state still forbids Sunday hunting. When you do engage a hunter, always ask to see the hunter's current permit. The Darien Police Department holds documents indicating that these hunters have been trained to state standards. The law requires the land owner to sign a consent form allowing the hunter on the property. Make sure that you hold a copy signed by both parties, and follow up with the hunter from time to time on progress.

You can pick up a current CT Hunting Guide from the Town Clerk carrying full details.

Landowners who allow the recreational use of their property without fee are protected from liability by state law. Archers are trained to shoot down from high tree stands, preferably around dawn or dusk. A local authority states that no one in the entire area has ever been struck by a stray arrow. Most hunters prefer wooded areas with secluded sites.

Deer-vehicle collisions do present serious hazards with over 500 deer carcasses found and reported yearly on Fairfield County roads. Such dangerous accidents cause over \$2,200 damage per vehicle. There are also reports of human fatalities in the state from accidents triggered by deer. Further, the alarming incidence of the deer-borne, Lyme disease is confirmed by the recent local surveys. Some Darien residents report resulting profound disability. Conservation experts say damage to local ecology from heavy year-round foraging presents a major concern for our prized woodlands and their potential regeneration.

For further information see our web site at www. Darienct.gov/ town officials. For help call Kent Haydock, Chair, DARIEN DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, at 655-7371; or call any committee member listed on our site.

The Darien Deer Management Committee was organized by Darien's First Selectman in 1997. They continue to study, consider actions, and publicize ways to deal with the excess deer population—all in the interests of public health, safety, and regaining environmental balance in our fine community.

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